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SUBJECT Crude Oil Production in Hungary

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1. 583,628 tons of crude oil were produced in Hungary in 1949. 583,433 tons of this total came from the fields of Zala/Lispe, the other 195 tons from Bukkszek, in the Matra Mountains.
2. The figures for Zala/Lispe are to be compared with the maximum wartime totals for those fields: 837,711 tons for 1943 and 809,970 tons for 1944.

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Comment: The two large Zala/Lispe fields are at Budafa and Lovaszi. When these fields were opened up in 1937 the oil stocks there were estimated by geologists at 12,733,000 cubic meters for Budafa and 16,870,000 cubic meters for Lovaszi, a total of 29,623,000 cubic meters. The management estimated that only forty-five percent of this quantity could be extracted, namely 13,330,350 cubic meters. Since the total amount of oil extracted up to the end of 1949 was 7,552,394 cubic meters, the remaining reserves should be 5,777,956 cubic meters, if the estimates of the geologists and the management are exact. The present management of the wells, however, does not share the point of view but estimates that ninety percent of the stocks estimated by the geologists can be extracted. A confidential report on this subject has recently been submitted for the approval of Istvan Friss, a member of the People's Economic Council.

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